Suicide deaths due to mental disorder

3457. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is unabated increase in the suicide deaths in the country and mental disorder is the main cause;

(b) whether Government is working on preventive measures;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) how far is the loneliness factor responsible for this cause among the elderly; and

(e) what is the action plan of Government to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 113697, 113914 and 118112 suicides were reported in the country during 2004, 2005 and 2006. However, the rate of suicides (number of suicides per one lakh population) shows a mixed trend. A total of 7117, 7604 and 8045 suicides were reported in the country due to insanity/mental illness during 2004 to 2006, accounting for 6.3%, 6.7% and 6.8% of the total suicides in the respective years.

(b) and (c) It is envisaged to restrategise the National Mental Health Programme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period to include suicide prevention, stress management, counselling services for Schools and Colleges under District Mental Health Programme with active participation of community based organizations. Under District Mental Health Programme, School/College teachers, general physicians and health workers would be trained to identify signs of stress and depression in students. District Mental Health Programme would be extended all over the country in a phased manner.

(d) Loneliness resulting from different causes is a significant contributor for suicides in the elderly.

(e) District Mental Health Programme is being restrategised during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period so as to include, amongst others, suicide prevention services.

Sale of fixed dose combinations without approval

3458. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that some fixed dose combinations are being sold in the market without approval from DCGI;

(b) if so, the name of manufacturers and number of these fixed dose combinations;

(c) whether DCGI has directed the State Drug Controllers to ban these combinations; and

(d) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The office of Drugs Controller General (India) (DCG(I)) has prepared a list of 294 such fixed dose combinations